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**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a battery system comprising:

using a solid state relay as a switch during an operation of said battery system, wherein said operation is a buck, and wherein said switch completes a circuit comprising a first side of a battery cell, a resistor directly connected to said switch, and a second side of the battery cell.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

controlling said battery system using a logic circuit.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

controlling said battery system using an EPROM.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

controlling said battery system using a programmable logic array.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein a control circuit that controls said switch is protected from a higher voltage circuit wherein said switch is a component of said higher voltage circuit.

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10. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a battery system comprising:

providing a first rail; [[and]]

providing a second rail;

providing a first switch connected to a high line of said first rail;

providing a second switch connected to a low line of said first rail;

providing a third switch connected to a high line of said second rail;

providing a fourth switch connected to a low line of said second rail;

partitioning a first battery cell into a first battery group;

partitioning a second battery cell into a second battery group wherein said second battery cell is in series with said first battery cell and wherein a first side of said first battery cell is electrically connected to a first side of said second battery cell; and

accessing said first side of said first battery cell and a second side of said first battery cell using said first rail.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 [[2]] further comprising:

accessing said first side of said second battery cell and a second side of said second battery cell using said second rail.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

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16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A battery management system comprising:

a solid state relay configured to function as a switch during an operation of said battery management system wherein said operation is a buck, and wherein said solid state relay completes a circuit comprising a first side of a battery cell, a resistor directly connected to said switch, and a second side of a battery cell.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Original) The battery management system of claim 19 further comprising:

a logic circuit configured to control said battery management system.

25. (Original) The battery management system of claim 19 further comprising:

an EPROM configured to control said battery management system.

26. (Original) The battery management system of claim 19 further comprising:

a programmable logic array configured to control said battery management system.

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27. (Original) The battery management system of claim 19 further comprising:

a control circuit configured to control said solid state relay wherein said control circuit is protected from a higher voltage circuit and wherein said solid state relay is a component of said higher voltage circuit.

28. (Currently Amended) A battery management system comprising:

a first rail; [[and]]

a second rail;

a first switch connected to a high line of said first rail;

a second switch connected to a low line of said first rail;

a third switch connected to a high line of said second rail;

a fourth switch connected to a low line of said second rail;

a partitioning unit configured to partition a first battery cell into a first battery group wherein said partitioning unit is further configured to partition a second battery cell into a second battery group wherein said second battery cell is in series with said first battery cell and wherein a first side of said first battery cell is electrically connected to a first side of said second battery cell;  
and

a control unit configured to access said first side of said first battery cell and a second side of said first battery cell using said first rail.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

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31. (Currently Amended) The battery management system of claim 28 ~~[[30]]~~ further comprising:

a second control configured to access said first side of said second battery cell and a second side of said second battery cell using said second rail.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)